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Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable CARL LEVIN, a Senator from the State of Michigan.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, in a world of crises and change, we are grateful that You are the same, yesterday, today, and forever! Your love is constant and never changes. You have called us to belong to You, to trust You, and to serve You.

With renewed dependence on You we accept our Nation's role as a defender of freedom in the world. We need Your guidance and strength for the present war against terrorism. We have been attacked by a terrorist movement with religious fanaticism. They call us infidels and harbor historic hatred against us. Our deep commitment is to free Afghanistan from the tyranny of the Taliban and the terrorism of al Qaeda. When our enemy claims to have divine approbation for its destructive cause, we reaffirm our historic conviction that our Nation's calling is to seek to be on Your side, rather than glibly presume that You are always on our side. Help us to keep our priorities straight: to seek to serve You first above all and to battle for righteousness, justice, and freedom. Bless our President and all who work with him in sorting out the strategy of this just war. Lead on, O Sovereign Lord; we are one Nation under You, indivisible and invincible only with Your power. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable CARL LEVIN led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 5, 2001.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable CARL LEVIN, a Senator from the State of Michigan, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE.

Mr. LEVIN thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business for not to extend beyond the hour of 5:45 p.m., and the time is to be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. As the Chair announced, there will be a period of morning business until 5:45. At that time, the Senate will begin consideration of the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 515, Larry Hicks, to be a United States district judge. There will be 15 minutes of debate equally divided between the chair and ranking member of the Judiciary Committee or their designees, and we will vote at 6 p.m.

I ask my friend from Wyoming if he wishes to speak. I will give a few remarks that will take a little bit of time. I do not want to have the Senator wait.

Mr. THOMAS. Go right ahead. I am not in any hurry and I am desperate to hear the remarks of the Senator.

GRATITUDE TO SENATE EMPLOYEES

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we in the Senate take a number of things for granted that we should not. There have been a number of speeches and remarks made on the floor and other public venues regarding how we depend on our Capitol Police. They do such a remarkably good job. Since September 11 they have worked endless hours, night and day, literally, 7 days a week, making not only Members feel secure, but the thousands of people who visit this Capitol complex and the thousands of employees we have. We have 26,000 employees working in the 3 Senate office buildings and 3 House office buildings. Again, I underscore and emphasize how indebted we are to the Capitol Police.

Within the Senate we have a lot of people who render invaluable service to the Senate. One of the most important features of the Senate is that we are always in line on parliamentary issues. The Chair rules, but at the present time we have just two Parliamentarians who are experts on the rules of the Senate. They do a remarkably good job. They are bipartisan in nature. Their rulings are grounded in precedent and have no regard for party affiliation. We never hear the Parliamentarians say a word yet their duties are essential to the operation of the U.S. Senate. The Chair rules, and always rules correctly. The reason for that is they have the backup of these two fine Parliamentarians, Alan Frumin and Elizabeth MacDonough. I am speaking for the entire Senate when I say what an outstanding job they do day in and day out. Perhaps we take these two people, this fine young woman Elizabeth MacDonough and this fine man,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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